



SUBJECT: Marine Services Team
TO: Members of the Department

This Order establishes department policy and member responsibilities for the following:

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51.1 MARINE SERVICES TEAM

The Marine Services Team is organized to assist in the recovery of evidence and bodies from the waterways of the state, conduct enforcement patrols and security operations, and participate in international border operations with other law enforcement agencies. The team is also able to assist public and private sector partners locate and inspect downed aircraft and shipwrecks. The team has highly specialized equipment and training which can be utilized to conduct underwater searches and inspections in various applications. The team can be utilized to assist law enforcement boat patrols with safety zones and to deter, as well as interdict, criminal activity taking place on waterways of this state.

This Order provides information on team operations, selection and training of divers, and procedures to be followed for persons requiring recompression.

51.1.1. WORK ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Requests from citizens and other police agencies for assistance with underwater operations shall be given prompt attention.
- B. Dives may be authorized for any underwater operation in the area of police responsibility. This includes, but is not limited to, recovery of stolen articles, physical evidence, human bodies, or underwater searching for explosives and contraband.
- C. Divers will generally not be used to recover lost articles and shall not engage in activities that compete with the private sector. Exceptions to this guideline include underwater work for a government agency, when reviewed on a case-by-case basis and authorized by the Special Operations Division commander.
- D. The team commander or designated divemaster shall supervise overall activities of the dive as circumstances dictate. The team commander or divemaster shall keep the affected district commander informed of the progress of the operation.
- E. When a drowning occurs outside the corporate limits of a city, the sheriff has statutory responsibility for the recovery of the body. The local post shall notify the sheriff immediately when department divers have been requested to recover a drowning victim outside the corporate limits of a city.

51.1.2. ACTIVATION OF DIVERS

- A. A request for divers may be made or received at any level in the department.
- B. Approval for the use of divers may be authorized by the district commander or designee of the affected district or by the Special Operations Division commander.
 - (1) The following information shall be forwarded to district headquarters when authorization for a Marine Services Team operation or dive is requested:
 - a. Object sought or purpose of the mission
 - b. Diving and water conditions
 - c. Names of persons involved (if known)
 - d. Name of the requesting department and contact information
 - (2) When a dive or Marine Services Team operation is authorized, district shall notify and forward the above information to Operations.
- C. The team commander shall select and assign a divemaster to assess the scene. The team commander or divemaster shall subsequently select and assign team members to each dive or operation.
 - (1) The team commander or divemaster shall determine the availability of team members by polling the nearest team members or contacting the posts where divers are assigned.

- (2) The following factors shall be taken into account in the selection and assignment of divers to an operation:
- a. The total number of divers needed to complete the assigned task.
 - b. The immediate availability of divers and necessary equipment within the requesting district and adjoining districts.
 - c. Distance to be traveled.
 - d. Diver's amount of rest prior to a diving assignment. Eight hours is the suggested amount of rest prior to a diving assignment.
 - e. The diver's experience. A new diver with less than one year of experience shall be accompanied by a more experienced diver.
 - f. The diver's assigned specialized equipment or the diver's specialized training.

51.1.3. DIVER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Each diver shall observe all safety regulations for scuba divers and shall be the sole judge of whether or not he/she should dive, having first considered all factors present.
- B. On conclusion of a Marine Services Team assignment, the designated supervisor shall report the results of the dive or mission as soon as possible to the affected post and Operations.
- C. Each team member shall keep issued diving and team equipment in operating condition at all times. This includes refilling air tanks after each dive assignment or training dive.
- D. When unable to dive for an extended period of time, the diver shall notify the Marine Services Team commander and divemaster in their district.
- E. When a diver who has been unable to dive for a period of time can resume diving, the diver shall notify the Marine Services Team commander and district divemaster.

51.1.4. OVERTIME ACCOUNTING

To facilitate assessment and proper time accounting for all overtime hours relating to the Marine Services Team, team members' overtime hours shall be accounted for by charging them to an index and PCA number identified by the Marine Services Team commander.

51.1.5. EQUIPMENT

- A. Department diving equipment shall not be used by persons other than current members of the Marine Services Team.
- B. Work site commanders at locations where divers are assigned shall provide space at the work site for the dive and team equipment, but shall not be held responsible for its maintenance or repair.
- C. Divers shall immediately notify the Marine Services Team commander when dive equipment is damaged or worn out. This equipment shall immediately be repaired or replaced.

- D. A yearly inspection and inventory of issued dive equipment shall be conducted by the Marine Services Team commander.
 - (1) The inspection/inventory may be conducted either in the field or during the annual refresher program.
 - (2) A recorded inventory of each diver's issued dive and team equipment shall be maintained by the Marine Services Team commander.

51.1.6. SELECTION AND TRAINING OF NEW DIVERS

- A. Criteria to be used in the selection of new divers shall be sent to the field prior to training new divers.
- B. Dive team members shall be selected from troopers who have submitted a memorandum, UD-40, expressing interest in becoming members of the team and who successfully pass the skills test and an interview with the team commander and designated senior divers. Letters of application shall be submitted through channels to the Special Operations Division commander.
- C. Applicants selected for the team shall pass a physical examination conducted by a physician familiar with hyperbaric medicine.
- D. Applicants selected for the team shall take and successfully pass all training requirements, regardless of any previous certifications.

51.1.7. TRAINING

- A. All members of the team shall train together in the months of February, April, July, and October yearly.
 - (1) The February training session shall be four consecutive days (including travel) and will consist of updates on diving knowledge, applicable laws, and department policies pertaining to the team. Each diver shall participate in an ice dive, under the direct supervision of the Marine Services Team commander.
 - (2) The remaining full team training sessions shall consist of three consecutive training days (including travel) and will focus on the following objectives:
 - a. April: Spring thaw involving flooding, fast water conditions, and low visibility
 - b. July: Deep repetitive diving
 - c. October: High winds and cold water conditions
- B. Alternate Months
 - (1) During the months of January, March, June, August, September, November, and December, all divers shall train one day per month. Training days will normally be scheduled on Tuesdays, but can be scheduled to accommodate vacation and court dates.
 - (2) The team commander shall appoint a divemaster or senior diver in the district to coordinate and schedule district training dives.

- (3) The divemaster or senior diver shall supply the date, time, and location of monthly training dives to the team commander for approval.

C. Rescheduled Training Dives

- (1) Divers who miss a monthly training day due to court, or find there are an insufficient number of divers to train during their respective training days, shall notify their posts as soon as the conflict is noticed and advise them of the next scheduled adjacent district training date. A diver shall not have a pass day fall on their scheduled training day.
- (2) Training dives scheduled during an officer's vacation period shall not be rescheduled.

D. Training Guidelines

All training objectives shall be established by the Marine Services Team commander. Non-emergency dives shall not be assigned during the training sessions without approval of the team commander.

51.1.8. PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

- A. Each year divers shall successfully pass a complete physical examination conducted by a physician familiar with hyperbaric medicine. The examinations shall be arranged by the Marine Services Team commander.
 - (1) Cost of the physical examination shall be paid by the department.
 - (2) Copies of the physician's clearance to dive shall be distributed as follows:
 - a. Human Resources Division
 - b. Affected Diver
- B. Divers not receiving or passing the yearly physical examination shall be deactivated and not be given diving assignments.

51.1.9. NON-DEPARTMENT DIVERS

The department may accept the assistance of qualified civilian divers and divers from other law enforcement agencies on a case-by-case basis with the approval of the team commander.

- A. Non-department divers shall be advised that the department will not assume responsibility for injuries or damage to equipment.
- B. Every effort should be made to coordinate the activities of all divers and other persons attempting a recovery or mission by the on-scene divemaster or team commander.

51.1.10. PROCEDURES FOR PERSONS REQUIRING RECOMPRESSION

- A. The department, in cooperation with diving clubs and individuals, has been designated as the controlling agency to coordinate and expedite transportation to the nearest recompression chamber, if recompression is required for a diving accident. Operations will maintain a list of the locations of available recompression chambers.
- B. Recompression may be necessary for treatment of:

- (1) Air embolism (air in the blood), which is usually fatal if not treated immediately.
 - (2) The bends, or caisson disease, which is extremely painful and could cause death if not treated within a few hours.
- C. The following emergency procedures shall be used when recompression is required:
- (1) The affected diver shall be placed on 100 percent oxygen via non-rebreather mask or a flow-restricted oxygen-powered resuscitator, whenever possible and by persons trained in the appropriate use of oxygen delivery systems.
 - (2) Contact the nearest post, sheriff's office, or municipal police giving the exact location and requesting a doctor and transportation.
 - (3) Operations shall be notified immediately. Operations shall contact the appropriate chamber location and request instructions from the medical doctor in charge.
 - (4) In case of air embolism, the speed of transportation will generally determine if the victim will survive. These victims shall be transported to the nearest chamber by one of the following means:
 - a. By ambulance if the distance is not too great.
 - b. By helicopter or airplane flying at less than 1,000 AGL (Above Ground Level) feet. In addition to the department's aircraft, the U.S. Coast Guard has air transportation available.
- D. Refer to Section 51.1.11. of this Order for recompression chamber and air transportation information.

51.1.11. RECOMPRESSION CHAMBERS

Certain injuries such as an air embolism and the bends can be fatal if not treated immediately and correctly. Patients should be transported immediately to the closest medical facility to be stabilized while a recompression chamber is located, if needed. Oxygen should be administered if decompression sickness is suspected. Additional emergency aid can be obtained by calling Divers Alert Network (DAN) at (919) 684-9111.

The following is a list of major hospitals in Michigan that have recompression chambers for treatment of pressure related injuries suffered by scuba divers. Most medical centers throughout the state have mono chambers for wound healing, which can be used to treat scuba diving injuries; however, hours may be limited. Telephone numbers are also listed for emergency transportation arrangements.

HOSPITAL

1

Spectrum Health
 100 Michigan Avenue
 Grand Rapids, MI 49503 (616) 391-1774
 (616) 391-1680
 Hospital..... (616) 391-1269
 ER/24HR.....
 Chamber.....
 3 Mono Chambers
 Available 24 hrs

2 Bronson Memorial Hospital
 601 S. John Street
 Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Hospital..... (269) 341-7654
 ER/24HR..... (269) 341-6386
 Chamber..... (269) 341-7778
 2 Mono Chambers
 Business hours 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
 1 Multi Chamber private
 operator

3 Detroit Receiving Hospital
 4201 St. Antoine
 Detroit, MI 48201

Hospital..... (313) 745-3603
 ER/24HR..... (313) 745-3356
 Chamber..... (313) 745-3074
 2 Mono Chambers
 Available 24hrs

4 Marquette General Hospital
 420 West Magnetic Street
 Marquette, MI 49855

Hospital..... (906) 228-9440
 ER/24HR..... (906) 225-3561
 Chamber..... (906) 225-3230
 1 Mono Chamber
 Attendant called in by
 ER as needed

PHYSICIAN

Richard J. Hodgson, MD, MBA
 Clinical Professor of Medicine

MSU College of Human Medicine

Director, Spectrum Health Wound &
 Hyperbaric Medicine

221 Michigan St. N. E.
 Suite 200
 Grand Rapids, MI 49503
 (616) 391-8636

Dr. Richard Hodgson is the primary diving physician for the MSP Dive Team. He should be contacted for all dive accidents involving team members.

- 5 Battle Creek Health Systems
300 North Avenue
Battle Creek, MI 49017
- Hospital..... (269) 245-8000
ER/24HR..... (269) 245-8111
Chamber..... (269) 245-8560
2 Mono Chambers
- 6 Crittendon Hospital
1101 W. University Drive
Rochester, MI 48307
- Hospital..... (248) 652-5000
ER..... (248) 652-5311
Chamber..... (248) 652-5293
2 Mono Chambers
Hours 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
- 7 McLaren Northern Michigan
416 Connable Avenue
Petoskey, MI 49770
- Hospital..... (800) 248-6777
ER (231) 487-4520
Chamber..... (231) 487-3590
2 Mono Chambers

Emergency Transportation for Barotrauma Injuries

- 1 U.S.C.G. Air Station Detroit (586) 307-6700
Selfridge Air National Guard Base
- U.S.C.G. Group Detroit – Operations Center (313) 568-9524
- 2 U.S.C.G. Air Station (231) 922-8300
Traverse City, Michigan
- 3 U.S.C.G. (231) 798-4605
Muskegon, Michigan
- U.S.C.G. Group Grand Haven Operations Center (616) 850-2501
- 4 Bronson Memorial Hospital (800) BRONSON
West MI Air Care Unit (800) 922-1234 –Flight Operations
Kalamazoo, Michigan
- 5 U of M Hospital (800) 822-2233
Survival Flight
Ann Arbor, Michigan
- 6 St. Joseph Hospital (800) 922-3050
Midwest Medflight
Ypsilanti, Michigan

7 North Flight
Traverse City, Michigan

(231) 935-9501

51.2 REVISION RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility for continuous review and revision of this Order lies with the Office of the Director (Special Operations Division, Field Support and Aviation Section, Marine Services Team).

DIRECTOR